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AFTERNOON AND WEEKLY.

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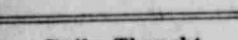
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31.

Daily Thought.

So may the New Year be a happy one to you, happy to many more whose happiness depends on you! So may each year be happier than the last, and not the meanest of our brethren or sisterhood debarred their rightful share in what they were formed to enjoy.—Dickens.

The News-Democrat said the crowd taxed the city hall. Was that in retaliation?

And the man, who pays more taxes than anybody else in Paducah, didn't protest—we refer to the Honorable James Peterson Smith.

John K. Hendrick's threat to tell all he knows about the call for a state Democratic primary has scared the McCreary papers so badly we begin to suspect he really does know something it wouldn't do to put the people wise to.

With the biggest year in the history of her buildings trade just drawing to a close, Paducah can raise her head from contemplating the profits of the western district tobacco crop today long enough to take a peep into the brightest prospect for a prosperous New Year she ever enjoyed—railroad building, traction line extensions, tax rate reduction made possible by revising the property assessment and public improvement, permanent government work in the river, assured, and a better feeling among citizens that Paducah has a real destiny. Let us put our own little selfish interests aside for the moment, and consider the fact that what benefits Paducah benefits us all.

LET THE PEOPLE BEWARE.

Hon. Charles K. Wheeler stated last night before the meeting at the city hall to protest against the increase in the tax assessment on big property holders, that if the News-Democrat hadn't dragged the matter into politics the room would have been crowded. Whether or not the result would have been different had the News-Democrat allowed the demonstration to pass off as a non-partisan affair, the significance of the fact that the News-Democrat just at this time is dragging everything it possibly can into politics must not be allowed to pass without notice.

A certain element of this city is not entirely satisfied with the Smith administration for selfish reasons, and it is beginning this early through its mouthpiece, the News-Democrat, to muddy the political waters, while under the surface it gets in its work with both parties.

A majority of the voters of Paducah are Democrats and all things being equal the Democrats will carry an election. Two elements are necessary to insure Republican success: sufficient depravity in the Democratic organization to frighten the voters out of their partisanship, and sufficient merit in the Republican ticket to offer hope of salvation from the menace of it. Those conditions were present at the election, in which Mayor Smith was successful, and these interests recognize the danger of another similar hazard. They see that the people are satisfied because they are getting something for their investment under this administration, and would be inclined to favor another one of the same kind. So they are now trying to select the Republican candidate for mayor, realizing that if they get one of their own choosing to run on the Republican ticket, most any kind they may select for the Democratic candidate is sure to win.

That is what this abuse of the Smith administration means, coupled with the claim that George Walters is responsible for the good financial showing of the year; and the effort to create a schism in the Republican ranks and keep public attention focused on the Republican situation, while they manipulate Democratic politics. If the people of Paducah are not careful they will have another Tom Harrison campaign without a Jim Smith.

DEMOCRACY'S CRISIS.

For the first time the Democratic party must now face the issue that has rent the Republican party the last two years—progressivism vs. reactionary influences. In Ohio, New Jersey, New York, Indiana, Maine and West Virginia, the state legislatures will select United States senators. In New Jersey, Woodrow

Wilson recognizes the danger and has taken an active hand to prevent a representative of the interests securing the seat. In New York, where Democracy abjectly surrendered to Tammany Hall, Sheehan, one of the gang, seems sure of election. In Ohio, Harmon controls the situation, and has prevented John R. McLean seeking the toga; but a true progressive will have a hard time winning. The party secured a temporary advantage by reason of the Republican party's demoralization over that same issue; and the answers to the question of whether or not Democracy will make the most of its advantage, depends upon its ability to keep up with the progressive spirit of the times.

THE END OF A DECADE.

Social eras and epochal periods of history do not conform to arbitrary measures of time, yet each year and each decade has its own significance, though movements of importance and crises may lap over from one to the other.

The year 1910 closes a recognized decade with census of the country, a thing, which in itself provokes analysis and directs popular attention more closely to its events. During the decade just ended, and more particularly the year fast drawing to a close, we observed a world movement, an unrest that manifested itself variously, according to the peculiar conditions of the country under observation, yet possessing common symptomatic characteristics, which defined the relationship between the struggles going on among all civilized peoples, like the general advance of a great army, rushing forward here, temporarily checked there, a flanking movement to the right and apparent repulse on the left—confusing as a panorama, but clearly a systematic advance, when studied with a topographical map.

In this country where the restraint is least applied the turbulence is least manifest. In those countries, where restraint of the individual is most severely applied, the struggle burst forth into rebellion and, more than once successful revolution. Turkey and Persia and Portugal caught the full tide of the rise of the masses; Russian turbulence has increased; military Germany has been rocked by the clash between the theory of the divine right of kings and advanced socialism; even England presents the queerest assortment of political bed fellows and the most remarkable bed coverings of the commons against the ex-empted aristocracy on the one hand, and Catholic Ireland, fighting for autonomy in league with Protestant non-conformist Scotland and England against the established church.

The east is not sufficiently enlightened yet to feel the violent effect of internal readjustment, and nationalism is still the dominant political force in Japan, the menace of which will hold the United States poised by the same sentiment until European peasants throw off the back-breaking burden of naval armament, and popular education enables the Japanese coolies to distinguish between patriotism and loyalty to the ruling classes. Another decade should see the fulfillment of much of the promise of world peace and international comity made in this.

In the United States the ferment, being less confined, makes less disturbance; but the fermenting process is none the less marked. The first manifestation was the disintegration of party lines. They retained their forms until pressure was applied, and then they dissolved. Democrat and Republican mean less to this generation than "progressive" and "reactionary." Control of public service corporations in the interest of the public; punishment of men in high places for crimes against the social order; demands for popular primary initiative and referendum, in response to a recognition of widespread lack of confidence in politically machine selected officials; sanitary and hygienic reform, care of the poor, prevention of disease, development of rivers, conservation of natural resources and the laymen's organizations in the churches, indicate the trend of popular sentiment in this country, leading the world movement, that is sweeping like a tide around the earth, roaring and destructive, where encounters opposition, but irresistible.

The "progressive" spirit, which is called insurgency and is most marked, naturally, in the dominant political party, has almost entirely changed the character of the political leaders of the country within a half decade. Foraker, Aldrich, Cannon, Platt, Hale—one is dead, and all have grown old in the service, but everyone was swept out by the reform wave and there is no one of their kind risen to take their places. They are succeeded by Taft, Roosevelt, Root, Cummings, La Follette, Beveridge, and men of that stamp. And the change in the minority party is even more significant, for within a year really powerful national figures have appeared as the champions of Democracy—Harmon, Wilson, Folk—and they stand for the same policies the Republican leaders stand for.

The decade has witnessed, too, something like a triumph of American diplomacy—once contemptuously dubbed "shirt-sleeve diplomacy," because our untrained representatives concealed no ulterior motives under suave approaches. American influence in China is dominant today, because America has consistently been China's friends, and has stood for the integrity of the empire, the great railroad and American capital will reform the currency of China. In South and Central America, too, our influence is great, and with the abdication of

PANAMA CANAL EXPOSITION.

The question who will receive the Panama Exposition celebration rests today with the middle west, the real seat and center of American vitality and American influence. If the dependant newspapers of that section will speak out, and if their congressmen will take an enlightened interest in what they have to say, there will not be much of a fight in Washington in January over the location of the Panama Exposition.

The people of New Orleans and Louisiana have raised over eight million dollars locally for the purpose of providing a proper celebration. They wish to give evidence to the rest of the south that the city of New Orleans, the greatest in the south, is awake to its interests and is ready to take a vital part in any movement for their advancement. They wish to show the people of the Mississippi valley that New Orleans with its banks, its commerce, with its business houses and its wonderful latent resources, stands ready to do its share in any movement for the public good.

Now how does this effect you brethren who dwell in the middle west, where already you have a large surplus of wealth to invest, where you are creating a surplus population, where your manufacturing and industrial enterprises have grown beyond the stage where nearby markets can consume their products?

The Mississippi valley geographically and commercially is a unit. Our money interests at New Orleans are the same as the money interests throughout the rest of the valley, and the rest of the valley has infinitely more to gain in a broad way by developing a great seaport at New Orleans than we at home have to gain in a narrow and selfish way, for the merchants and manufacturers in Chicago, Duluth, Minneapolis, Cincinnati, Toledo and St. Louis can come to

this city and establish here an agency for trading through this seaport with Central and South America and with the Orient. If he wishes to import and export he can do business here cheaper and better than he can do it in New York or in the East. If he wishes to open up a vast trade territory with South America and the Orient, which is now inaccessible to him through the East, owing to competition and cost there, he can only reach that territory through the natural deep water seaports of the Mississippi valley. If he wishes to handle heavy cargo in the next ten, twenty or fifty years he must load it in boats; float it down the Mississippi and transfer it here to the carriers of the world.

There is no answer to that, New Orleans is the Panama port. It is as much the natural seaport of the Mississippi valley as New York is the natural seaport of the east, the artificial seaport of the rest of the United States. Great world trade cannot be established without great ships and shipping, and it is up to the rest of the Mississippi valley to stand behind New Orleans.

The best way that this object can be accomplished is by the newspapers of the Mississippi valley insisting that their congressmen support New Orleans as to the logical and only site for the Panama exposition. If each newspaper prints these facts as they know them to bear on their own commerce and on their own future, if each newspaper which receives this will ask the leading manufacturers and the leading business interests of its city whether they do not know that this argument is correct, and if they find that this argument is correct, if they will see that this may throw the vast influence of the Mississippi valley behind the Panama exposition movement at New Orleans there is no doubt about the result.—New Orleans Item.

their houses and churches, and at 12 o'clock they were very particular to show in some way that they were rejoicing that another year had begun.

Not all of these people celebrated New Year's on the same day. The ancient Romans used to have their New Year's day in March; then they changed to January, and a large part of the rest of the world followed them. The Jewish people have another day and the Chinese and Japanese still another, but whenever the day falls, according to their special calendar, there is always a very important celebration of it.

The Druids, who were the priests of England before the Christian religion was taken into Great Britain, also celebrated New Year's day. They were very interesting and very strange people, these Druids, and according to what one reads about them in history, one always imagines them as wearing beautiful white robes and having tall, magnificent figures and flowing white beards and hair. At any rate, they always wore white robes on New Year's day, for that was the day when they cut down the sacred mistletoe.

For the Druids didn't think that mistletoe was only a pretty green vine. They believed it to be a miraculous growth which would protect people from being harmed by poisonous food or drink.

On that day a particularly large, handsome Druid, with glistening white beard and hair and rather cold gray eyes—Druids always had cold gray eyes we believe—and clothed most beautifully in white, would climb the oak tree on which the mistletoe grew and cut it down with a golden sickle. He wouldn't take it in his hand, because they didn't consider that respectful enough to the sacred mistletoe, which could do such wonderful things. Instead he would catch it in a pure white cloth and climb carefully down the tree with it. After this an altar would be erected and white bulls sacrificed and prayers offered. Then the Druidical community felt that for the following



If You Know

that during the next twelve months your expenditures would equal your income, you would want to change things, wouldn't you? A checking account will give you a record of each month's receipts and expenditures. You will have an up-to-date knowledge of your financial affairs. It's a good plan to pay all bills by check. We furnish you bank book and checks. We offer exceptional advantages for carrying checking accounts.

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year they would have all the good luck possible.

You see in those days New Year's celebrations were very serious things and all of the ceremonies attending them were religious.

STATE PRESS.

Hazarding a Guess.

It is said that Hon. John K. Hendrick will not make his six speeches, which have been announced through the press dispatches, and that he would also not make the race for governor.—Mayfield Messenger.

Please Don't, John.

It is given out that Colonel John K. Hendrick, candidate for governor, will make six speeches at different points in the state, including Lexington, condemning the Democratic committee for calling the primary election against the wishes of all the gubernatorial candidates except Senator McCreary. It is true that this is untrue. It can in no event help the colonel, but would injure him to a great extent and could only result in creating resentment in some people's breasts against the powers that be. The best thing for the colonel to do is to accept the action of the committee in good faith and get down to business in his offices to beat the man who seems to have it all his own way.—Lexington Herald.

More Advice on the Subject.

If Mr. Hendrick is wise and prudent he will use that other "think" that is coming to him, and if he intends to continue in the race for governor as a Democrat, will devote his first and subsequent speeches to giving the Democratic voters some of the good reasons why they should vote for him as their standard bearer instead of McCreary or Johnson. The character of campaign conducted by General N. B. Hays four years ago is not going to be effective in getting votes for Mr. Hendrick. The people want a Democratic ticket elected next November and they have no time to listen to the snarling or the whining of a man who is putting his own ambition above his party's best interests. Mr. Hendrick may not know it, but the people much prefer the primary for it gives them a direct say-so for their choice among the various candidates. Conventions are not always—in fact, are seldom—representative of the real will of the voters. John K. Hendrick knows that. The plan of Whalen to nominate Johnson for governor is disarranged by the action of the state committee in calling a primary and really the loudest complaint we hear T. Cunningham, Cadiz; A. L. Lowe, against the primary comes from Mayfield.

Those candidates and those politicians who consider their chances Savannah, Tenn.; T. M. Taylor, better where the actual voters are, not so directly in evidence. No one Florence Station; Mary Brown, but what understands that Whalesnootown; William Murphy, Brookport; J. E. Arnold, H. T. Head and let Hendrick pick up what delegates he could get in western Kentucky, and in the final and inevitable test of strength between McCreary and Johnson, gather up all the Head, Hendrick and scattering vote, throw it to Johnson, thus, perhaps, and only in this way, accomplishing the defeat of McCreary, who is by odds the choice of the people.—Clinton Gazette.

A Nasty Charge.

Contrary to promises and the call for the meeting of the state executive and central committee that the meeting was only for a "conference" and not for a call of convention or primary. The committee acting under the influences of the Standard Oil company took the bull by the horns and called a primary election for May 27, 1911. In spite of the protest of 40 out of 43 state candidates. Only one candidate favored a primary, Senator Jas. B. McCreary, and two were willing to accept either a primary or convention and 40 were outspoken for a convention so that they could have a platform on which to stand in making the race and the repetition of four years ago would not be seen, where each candidate was a platform unto himself; some for the county unit bill and some against it and several of the candidates having two sets of speeches, one for a "dry" town and county, and the other for a "wet" town and county. These facts are well known to every informed man in the state.

But the power behind the throne was the money of the Standard Oil company through its representative of the mountains, a man who has amassed FIVE MILLION DOLLARS in the past 15 years and who is known to be willing to put in one million of his money to Coloradoize Kentucky and get up the "swag" to buy five state executive committee men who have heretofore been and were elected as anti-primary and anti-Beckham men in 1903; but the mountain king's money got them and they voted for a primary. He proposes to buy the senatorship because the Standard Oil wants him and will add five million to his one in order that "the interests" may have another representative in the United States senate. He is behind McCreary and with Percy Haley in all the machinations of state politics and the manipulations thereof. It is cheaper, the mountain king thinks to buy 25 or 30 representatives and senators than it is to buy the entire voting population of the state. That is why they put the rollers under Olie James and sent him down the hill in the same toboggan slide with John K. Hendrick. Matters will be the warmest the state ever saw before.

The Weather

Increasing cloudiness followed by rain or snow late tonight or Sunday; warmer tonight; colder Sunday afternoon or night. Temperature today: Highest, 45; lowest, 30. Sun rose today 7:19 a. m. Sun sets today 4:48 p. m.

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tenden county, Mr. James then described Sam Smith's home, his garb, and his peculiarities. Continuing he said "One day Sam Smith came to town, Sam was generally dry. Sam belonged to the great class of citizens who take sugar in their tea. As the bar-keeper leaned back against his fixtures Sam stirred his sugar and said "Jimmie this tariff business is a hard subject to understand and I'll tell you what I have made up my mind to, and that is this, we either need a tariff or we don't need a tariff, damfino which."

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